

# THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

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## Race survey results discouraging

During the second week of February the ACCESS Program sent a race relations questionnaire to 3,109 Fitchburg State College students. 178 students responded. The findings are as follows:

**1. IS THERE A RACE RELATIONS PROBLEM AT FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE?**

YES 68%  
NO 29%  
UNDECIDED 2%

**2. HAVE YOU BEEN A VICTIM OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AT F.S.C.?**

YES 14%  
NO 86%

Respondents who answered yes to question #2 were given space to relate an incident of racial discrimination. 7% of the respondents related incidences of racial discrimination that they had experienced.

**3. IS THERE A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF MINORITY FACULTY MEMBERS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND STUDENTS AT F.S.C.?**

YES 53%  
NO 40%  
UNDECIDED 7%

**4. DO YOU FEEL THAT YOUR COLLEGE EDUCATION HAS INCREASED YOUR AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEMS OF RACE IN AMERICAN SOCIETY?**

YES 73%  
NO 27%

**5. ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY SPECIFIC FSC POLICY REGARDING RACE RELATIONS?**

YES 33%  
NO 67%

**6. IF THERE IS A RACE RELATIONS PROBLEM AT F.S.C, WHAT ARE SOME POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS?**

40 percent of the respondents offered solutions to these race relations problems. The majority of these respondents see increased education and social interaction as potential solutions.



The following is a statistical profile of the respondents:

**GENDER**

63% of the respondents were female.

37% of the respondents were male.

**CLASS**

19% of the respondents were members of the class of 1993. 30% of the respondents were members of the class of 1994. 30% of the respondents were members of the class of 1995. 19% of the respondents were members of the class of 1996. 2% of the respondents did not indicate their class.

**RACIAL/ETHNIC GROUPINGS**

4% of the respondents were African Americans. 2% of the respondents were of Asian descent. 0% of the respondents were Latino or Latina. 1% of the respondents were of Native American or Eskimo descent. 85% of the respondents were European Americans. 3% of the respondents were biracial. 1% of the respondents indicated that they did not belong to any race or ethnic group. 4% of the respondents did not indicate their racial/ethnic origin.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

by Albert Uriah Turner, Jr.  
ACCESS staff

My review of the results of this questionnaire confirms my worst suspicions concerning race relations at Fitchburg State College. Race relations problems at FSC have gained the attention of the few rather than the many. 94.4 percent of FSC students did not respond to this questionnaire, while only 5.6 percent of the students did. This is cause enough for reflection and action.

Despite the fact that 73 percent of the respondents believe that their college education has increased their awareness of the problems of race in America, it seems that this education has not

had enough of an effect on campus life here at FSC. Although there is a campus race relations problem, students are unaware of institutional efforts to solve this problem. As many respondents suggested, advocating increased education as the key to solving this problem is more than appropriate; it is necessary.

This crucial goal can be accomplished by this institution through renewing and exhaustively publicizing its commitment to improving race relations at FSC. Students attend FSC to receive an education that will allow them to deal with and serve a diverse America. If the student, staff, administration, and faculty populations do not come to reflect diversity, Fitchburg State College will cease to be an "Uncommon Public College." Moreover, if the curriculum and institutional policies do not reflect this diversity,

then it is doubtful that students at FSC will be adequately educated.

A glance at the statistics is enough to indicate the relationship between race relations problems and diversity at FSC. It can be argued that minority underrepresentation in academia is directly related to race relation problems. 53 percent of students believe there is an adequate number of minorities involved in the life of the campus. There is a disparity between the student view of minority representation at this college and actual numbers. That minorities comprise 7 percent of the student body and a little less than 10 percent of the faculty population is not indicative of significant minority involvement on this campus. That there are only five minority administrators indicates that we have a problem, shared by many colleges, and, in fact, represents the problem with

the superstructure of American society in general. Diversity is arguably in its infancy at Fitchburg State College. More growth is needed.

Furthermore, if students who are aware of a race relations problem at this college remain silent, despite the most valiant institutional efforts, very little will change. Students need to become more involved with this issue. A case in point is the poor student participation in the February 17, 1993 panel discussion on race relations at FSC. Although roughly 115 questionnaire respondents think that there is a race relations problem on our campus, less than 30 students took part in this panel discussion. Any significant change at the college must involve students. It is time for students to look past apathy, defeatism, and fear. It is time for students to act.

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This is how many people care about HIV/AIDS at FSC

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Fifteen FSC students are mobilizing to combat homelessness.

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FSC's Malane Perry is breaking records left and right, and there's no end in sight.

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## McKay school on the forefront of education

by Jeff Mann  
Strobe staff

Fitchburg State College's own McKay Campus School currently offers a wide variety of unique and innovative programs that have aided significantly in upholding its overall mission in educating its students.

According to McKay's principal, Dr. Ron Colbert, among the more innovative programs offered at the school is a research project by Judith Ferrara called Peer Mediation, in which children go to mediators in order to solve various daily conflicts with their classmates. In this program the children actually participate in serving as mediators, and are appropriately called "McKay - Diators". Thus, Colbert said that the students actually have the choice of settling their disputes in front of their peers, or by presenting their cases to faculty.

The students at McKay are also becoming exposed to computers via a "magnificent computer lab in the back of the library", according to Colbert. "The children get a chance to become acquainted with computers at an early age."

The Reading is Fundamental (RIF) program takes place when the student government provides McKay with money in order to sponsor a wide scale book sale once a year in the cafeteria. This allows children to purchase books for reduced prices.

Another program that Dr. Colbert gives unabashed praise to is the Literacy Corps Program in which college students tutor children after school hours and receive college credits. "Each semester we have approximately

stamps and licensed postmaster, who must first pass a scaled down version of the government test. Through the usage of such a post office, the students become accustomed to writing and sending letters in a "simulated post office

students to help with the lab if they are interested.

Colbert added that McKay is currently the only school in the area with a Site Based Management Team that consists of faculty, parents and one student, who

Last month the entire McKay Campus School Community celebrated a school-wide thematic unit on "Global Friendship". Individual classroom teachers and specialists are leading McKay students through a wide range of studies from global environment to Chinese studies. McKay is celebrating cultural diversity by recognizing and studying the similarities among people in the world.

"We have a wide variety of cultures at the school," Colbert said. "The students here have an opportunity to become acquainted with these different cultures."

A large scale conference specifically designed for state teachers will be held on Saturday, March 27 at the campus school. It is entitled the "2nd Annual Conference of the Whole Language Network", in which over 20 workshops will be offered in order to enhance both teaching technique and style.

Colbert said that school choice has not had an adverse effect on the school, and they have even gained over 20 students since its implementation. Also, he stresses the fact that the overall perception of the children is unjustly tainted by certain people who do not know what the school is all about. "99.9 percent of the children are very well-behaved, eager to learn, and extremely loving here at the school."



Keeping on the edge of education allows these McKay kids to receive a 21st century education.

200 students who do pre-service work within the building," Colbert said. "We also have a wonderful connection within the Social Sciences."

The McKay School even offers its students their very own post office containing its own

environment", and thus many important skills are enhanced.

Colbert also gives high marks to the newly installed photography lab that allows children to become acquainted with aspects of photography and film. He says the school welcomes any FSC stu-

meet once a week in order to develop school policy and programs. He indicated that this is a unique interactive process that allows everyone affected by the school to voice concerns and/or opinions about the educational process.

## HIV/AIDS discussion receives apathetic response

by Shawn Robinson  
Strobe staff

Who is Captain Condom? Unfortunately not many people know since there was only one attendant to the HIV/AIDS Peer Discussion Group held in Percival Auditorium on February 24th.

Perry Shapiro heads the group of HIV/AIDS Peer Educators. The group, comprising of 9 Fitchburg State College students has been in the planning stages for almost a year. They received their peer education training in Worcester and then brought those skills back to Fitchburg to form the HIV/AIDS Peer Educators.

"We hope the attendance doesn't reflect the level of awareness on FSC campus," Shapiro said.

Planned for the discussion were participation activities such as a Family Feud style HIV/AIDS trivia contest, condom demonstrations, a condom relay race as well as a serious discussion of HIV/AIDS facts and an appearance by Captain Condom. Free condoms were also passed out.

Fortunately, the discussion wasn't the only, or the first, presentation put on by the group. The Educators put on programs for the resident halls, campus organizations such as SGA, and classes at the rate of about two a week.

Although the attendance was disappointing, the difficulty in get-

ting students to actively participate in educational events on campus led the group to remain positive about the work they do with their other, more specific, target audiences.

The HIV/AIDS Peer Educators have a budget, but next year

they hope to obtain their own office and perhaps receive college credit for the work that they do.

At the end of March, after spring break, the group will be looking to increase its membership for next year's activities.



This was the crowd that greeted the panel discussion of HIV/Aids at FSC.

## 'Far out, daddy-o!' Jazz competition to be held at Weston

by Michael Shanley  
Director of Information

Fitchburg State College will host the Massachusetts International Association of Jazz Educators' (IAJE) All-State Jazz Ensemble Finals on March 6 beginning at 11:30 a.m. in Weston and McKay auditoriums.

Some 500 jazz musicians from more than fifteen high schools will be vying for gold, silver, and bronze medals at the college.

In the weeks preceding the event, more than 1,200 high school jazz musicians will compete in four divisional championships held throughout the state.

Bands will be selected from the gold and silver medalists determined by IAJE judges under the leadership of Dr. Donald Bastarache of Westfield State College.

"The high school musicians are exciting to hear," said Dr. Frank Patterson of the Fitchburg State Humanities Department. "The student performances are finely honed and feature some of the best jazz in the state. It proves that this very American art form is alive and well in Massachusetts."

Dr. Patterson, band and jazz ensemble director at the college, is hosting the event for the 11th year. He is a member of the executive board of the IAJE in Massachusetts.

Bands in each of two divisions will be judged by a panel of expert jazz musicians and educators from throughout New England. The competitions are the climax of a year's work for the high school musicians and their directors. "Many of the soloists with those bands go on to perform professionally," noted Patterson.

The Division I performances will be held in McKay Auditorium. The Division II competition will be held in Weston Auditorium. The public is welcome to attend. Tickets are \$3, and offer admittance to both auditoriums.

For more information, contact Patterson at 345-2151, ext. 3278.

Photo by Tim Brooks



# College students mobilize for Congressional battle

by Charles Dervarics  
CPS

Supporters of President Clinton's economic reform package are asking 250,000 college students to contact members of Congress in support of the president's plan and its emphasis on creating jobs and service opportunities for America's youth.

The effort is part of the plan to "save our future," said Mike Evans, the group's director of special projects. "We have a lot of young people who are looking for work."

"The whole premise of the plan is to save our future," said Mike Evans, the group's director of special projects. "We have a lot of young people who are looking for work."

The College Democrats asked each chapter to rally at least 500 students to make telephone calls to members of Congress.

"President Clinton is saving our future," read a flier sent to the College Democrat chapters. "The president's plan is bold and courageous representing change and shared sacrifice."

Nonetheless, the national outcry over the tax provisions of Clinton's plan - formally outlined Feb. 17 - has mobilized College Republicans as well.

"The administration wrongfully assumes that tax increases

will produce economic growth," said Tony Zagotta, national chairman of College Republicans. Zagotta is asking all 1,000 campus chapters to make at least 100 calls to Washington during the next week.

In his economic address, Clinton asked for a variety of new education, training and service initiatives affecting youth, beginning with summer employment. His plan calls for adding 700,000 entry-level jobs this summer for youth working on public improvement projects such as roads or bridges, or in community service. The president also asked for cooperation from the private sector to provide as many as 1 million new summer jobs.

Returning to a theme from last year's presidential campaign, Clinton also outlined plans for a new national program to help young people defray the cost of college. Under the initiative, students could perform service even as teenagers in exchange for future college aid.

Service performed during and after college also could qualify students for loan assistance. Some examples cited by the president included teaching, police work and employment in social services.

In his speech, Clinton compared the national service program to the GI Bill enacted after

World War II and the Peace Corps created in the 1960's. He said it could define the character of a new generation.

"In the future, historians who got their education through the national service loan will look back and thank you for giving America a new lease on life if you meet this challenge," he told a joint session of Congress.

The Education Department estimated that the program would cost as much as \$3 billion through 1997, although more details are not expected until the president unveils his fiscal year 1994 budget in March.

Elsewhere, the president called on Congress to create higher education direct loan program by 1997, although more details are not expected until the president unveils his fiscal year 1994 budget in March.

Elsewhere, the president called on Congress to create a higher education direct loan program by 1997, thereby cutting banks out of the student aid system at a potentially large savings. Education Department officials said students also could tie their loan repayment to their income after college, which would allow some graduates to work in lower-paying service jobs without the threat of default.

Clinton also asked Congress to take care of the \$2 billion shortfall

in the Pell Grant program immediately as part of a short-term economic stimulus. Estimates of the shortfall grew significantly during the past year, and Education Department officials said it was best to take care of the problem as soon as possible.

Largely because of a shortfall, Department of Education officials indicated they plan to set a maximum Pell Grant of \$2,300 this fall, or a decrease of \$100 from last year.

To pay for these and other initiatives, however, Clinton also has proposed a series of tax increases and spending cuts. The president would increase the top tax rate on corporations and high-income earners and impose a surcharge on taxpayers who earn more than \$250,000 a year. The most controversial element of this tax package is an energy levy affecting all but the lowest-income Americans.

The White House has referred to these new taxes as "contributions" toward improving America, although some lawmakers are wary. "The president's answer is more taxes on everyone," said House Minority Leader Robert Michel of Illinois in the Republican response to Clinton's address.

Leaders of both College Democrats and college Republicans say the tax issue is one reason

why they are asking young people to take action on the Clinton plan.

"Young people are not traditionally as organized as other groups," said the Democrats' Evans. "While the increased contributions affect people who are older, it's students who will benefit."

But Zagotta said the increased taxes would do more long-term harm to the nation's economy - even if it does create some short-term opportunities for students. Instead of new spending and taxes, he said, the nation must concentrate on reducing the government bureaucracy.

Even the national service proposal was "very vague," Zagotta said. "I think a national service program is a great idea, but it can't be just another bureaucratic plan."

As for Clinton's budget cuts, his advisers outline only a few that could potentially affect college students. Education Department officials said campus-based student aid programs such as Perkins Loans and work-study could face consolidation and then a reduction of funds. The administration is not expected to release additional details until next month.

Overall, the president's proposals, if enacted, would trim the federal deficit from a projected \$346 billion to about \$200 billion a year by fiscal year 1997.

## Centennial plans are underway

by Jeff Mann  
Strobe staff

Plans for the college's centennial activities are moving full speed ahead, with many of the departments already scheduling elaborate events for the celebration next year.

According to Centennial Chairperson, Dr. Ron Colbert, the centennial theme for the celebration is "Celebrating a Century of Achievement," and several events have already been tentatively scheduled thus far.

Michele Zide is chairing a committee that will organize a major academic convocation rededicating the College. Colbert said that FSC is inviting all faculty, judges, lawyers, and the Fitchburg business community, along with various personnel from other area colleges and universities. The event, which officially kicks off the centennial, will probably include a guest speaker, an academic procession, and a reception or luncheon.

Carol Picard heads a committee that is planning a Centennial Ball on April 8, 1994, in which all faculty, students, and alumni are all eagerly welcomed. Colbert said that at the present time the committee expects approximately 500 people to attend the semi-formal event.

The month of October of '94 has been tentatively reserved for Alumni Month sponsored by the Alumni Association, while November is currently planned for establishing a sports hall of fame at the college, conducted by the Athletic Department.

Although the entire process is still in its developmental stages and not set in stone at this point, Dr. Colbert said, "It would be wonderful if we could get all of the organizations and departments of the college eventually involved. Our goal is to get all of the departments involved."

Other plans that have not been finalized feature the Special Education Department sponsoring a conference entitled, "Special Education Direction and Growth Through the Years", which is scheduled for the Spring of '95. The English Department will conduct various drama productions along with other major series of events.

Colbert also said that Humanities plans on being directly involved in the celebration with the Human performance of the Euterpe Trio with Jane Fiske. Furthermore, Frank Patterson will perform with the alumni band, and Robin Dinda is going to compose a piece of music for the occasion.

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## FSC students unite for Habitat



Sherry Beland

by Marshall L. Myers  
Strobe staff

How will you be spending your spring break? Perhaps you'll be on the beach with sand between your toes or skiing the slopes of Vermont. Or perhaps, just working.

Fifteen students from Fitchburg State (Lynn Ayers, Sherry Beland, Gina Buscaglia, Becky Cain, Katie Darst, John Derrishian, Christine Dion, Mike Fratus, Frank Guinane, Carol Hatch, John Hunt, Kim Kirk, Rod



Carol Hatch

Murphy, Marshall Myers, Kristen St. Jean) have their sights set for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to participate in the Habitat 1993 Collegiate Challenge, an alternative spring break program. The program is a joint building project aimed at placing people in need in simple, decent homes.

Habitat for Humanity's Collegiate Challenge unites campuses nationwide for the purpose of eliminating poverty housing. Only in its third year, the 1992 Collegiate Challenge became the nation's largest alternative spring break with

more than 3,000 students from 174 campuses participating.

Carol Hatch and Sherry Beland were directly involved in organizing the FSC chapter of Habitat. "I had heard of some friends of mine at other schools who have Habitat Chapters. I called the headquarters in Georgia and received information on how to start a campus chapter and the Collegiate Challenge Program. We had our initial meeting, received an interested bunch of students and its just blossomed," said Hatch.

So far, the FSC chapter is well on its way to reaching their financial goals needed to fund a fifteen person trek to Pittsburgh. Members are also excited about continuing the effort with local Habitat chapters after the Pittsburgh spring break trip. "Oh, definitely," added Sherry Beland, "If this one goes over well, we'd like FSC to be involved year after year."

The FSC chapter anticipated more support, but they are thankful to those caring people

who have helped to date. "We've received support from President Mara and his assistant, Terry Carol. Tim Liptrap of the Admissions Department and Becky Koch of MASSPIRG have assisted tremendously. Also, Phil Asselin, treasurer of SGA, has guided us in fundraising efforts. We appreciate all those who have

helped us," stated Carol Hatch. Habitat for Humanity International is a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing organization building homes in partnership with people in need. Habitat is headquartered in Americus, Georgia, with over 850 projects in the United States and is also building in Canada, Australia, Hungary, Poland and in 33 developing nations. Its mission is to eliminate substandard housing and

homelessness worldwide. Since it was founded in 1976, Habitat has built more than 18,500 houses. Homeowners work with volunteers on their houses, which are then bought at no profit and at no-interest on 15-30 year mortgages. The money from the sale is then recycled to aid in future construction.

The FSC Chapter organized

**"If this one goes over well, we'd like FSC to be involved year after year."**

**- Sherry Beland**

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their trip through Campus Chapters Department of Habitat for Humanity International which recently celebrated its fifth anniversary. The program has grown rapidly with 249 established campus chapters, and over 450 chapter associates (already established groups working with Habitat for a designed purpose). Three international chapters are located in Canada, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines.

## Elvis lives!

by Derek Valcourt  
Strobe staff

History took place on February 25 as "The King of Rock and Roll" gave a performance to FSC students as part of the 50s Late Night sponsored by the Programs Committee. Never before has such a pop icon appeared at FSC.



The King lives!

from his female admirers.

One audience member belted out a request for "Love Me Tender", and the King cooed his ballad. With the mood set just right, he bellowed "Blue Moon" and sang the timid "Are You Lonesome Tonight?"

Then the legend of music closed his performance with



The King was all shook up that there weren't too many people loving him tender at the recent 50s dance.

The crowd was all shook up when Elvis burst into the pub with "Don't Be Cruel", and then dished out several more dance hits such as "Blue Suede Shoes" and "All Shook Up". Elvis danced as only he could, eliciting the usual adoring shrieks of desire

"Jailhouse Rock" and left a 90s audience wanting more 50s smashes from the Hound Dog hero.

After the show, 50s trivia and dancing to some 50s and 90s music entertained the FSC students.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**To build may have to be the slow and laborious task of years. To destroy can be the thoughtless act of a single day.**

**-Winston Churchill**

## School cancellation process defined

by Kim Kadehjian  
Contributing writer

"Just look how beautiful it is out," said Franz Nowotny as he glared out his window from the administration building into the winter wonderland that coated New England last Wednesday. Nowotny, the Vice-President of Academic Affairs, is one of the few people entrusted with the power of fate.

The Austrian native and avid skier plays a large role in the snow-related school cancellation process.

Nowotny came to the United States in the 1960s. Although he loves snowy Austria, he enjoys living here and said his background has no affect on his decision to cancel school due to poor weather.

Dave Gromko, a senior at FSC,

believes differently. "Since Nowotny lived in Austria, he's grown up with the snow and that is why classes are never canceled. How does he expect us to get to school, ski mobile?"

"Sure I love the snow," said Nowotny, but when it comes to the big decision "the main concern is safety." If there's anyone who knows about the dangers of snow, it's the abominable Dr. Nowotny, straight from the mountains of Austria.

The decision to cancel school is a process that begins late in the evening with inquiries about every two hours from public safety to the State Police and other surrounding informants. Nowotny usually arrives at about 5:30 am and receives the recommendations.

His main concern is the condition of the roads and the campus.

Considerations of safety are the conditions of the roads, if the paths on campus have been shoveled, and if the parking lots have been cleared. Nowotny also looks into other facts such as surrounding schools decisions.

Then the final call is directed toward President Mara. Nowotny gives Mara his recommendation about whether school should remain open, be closed, or have a delay. President Mara either accepts or denies this recommendation. If day classes are canceled, then night classes are automatically canceled as well.

When the decision is final, calls are made to security, day and evening deans, TV stations (4 and 5), and radio stations, including WXPL.

So the question remains, would Nowotny have canceled in 1978?



A worker spins up another batch of cotton candy at the Winter Carnival in G-Lobby.



## FSC professor immerses himself in Nicaraguan native culture

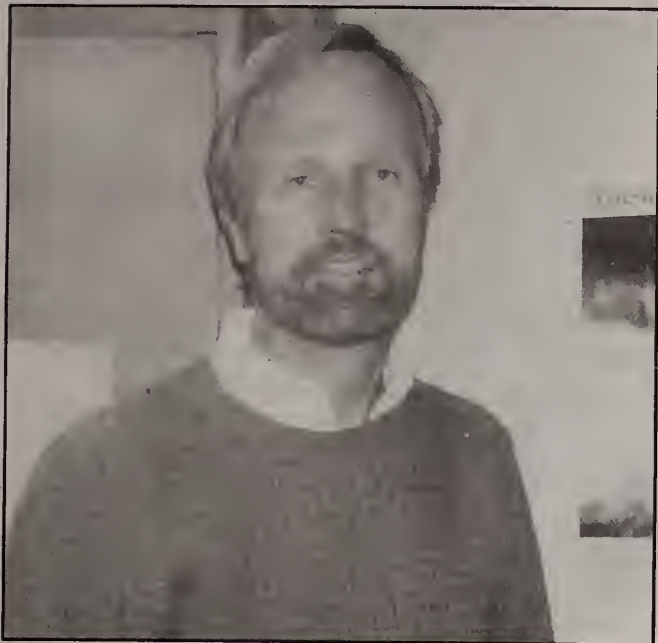


Photo by Tim Brooks

FSC professor Jefferson Breen recently travelled to Nicaragua.

by Tim Brooks  
Strobe staff

From January 9th through the 18th, Jefferson Breen, a professor at FSC, embarked on a journey to the American Nicaraguan School in Managua, Nicaragua.

Being an adventurer and world traveler, Breen was thrilled to be the first faculty member from Fitchburg to be asked to visit the A.N.S. The program that sent Breen to Nicaragua was organized by Dr. Franz Nowotny, Vice President of Academic Af-

fairs and Mary Ellen Normandin, director of the A.N.S.

Breen described the A.N.S. as a school covering grades kindergarten through 12 with about 1,100 students. Half of these students are embassy kids and the other half are Nicaraguan children from well-to-do families.

The faculty that Breen trained in self-esteem for students, a subject that Breen has written a novel about, came from countries all over the world.

In addition to training the staff on enhancing the self-esteem of

their students, Breen also worked with the students themselves, particularly the high school students.

When discussing self-esteem and counseling, Breen mentioned Father Gary Fernandez, the guidance counselor at the A.N.S. and a former FSC graduate student. "He was one of my students," said Breen, "... a lovable, crazy guy and a terrific counselor."

The future plans for the program include sending faculty in search for master degrees and possibly sending FSC students as interns. Breen also hopes that in the future Fitchburg State College's relations with the A.N.S. continue and that financial aid be made available to those Nicaraguan children who have the ability but not the means to attend the school.

In addition to the academic experience, Breen also learned about the culture of Nicaragua. "Nicaraguan people are extremely friendly, courteous, and gracious," said Breen. "There is a strong spirit."

Breen also shared a humorous story of how he learned not to fear tarantulas. When Breen visited Montilimar Beach, about 30 miles from Managua, he described it as a "tropical paradise". When discussing food, the word "spicy" was used more than once.

"I wish I was back there," mused Breen, "I wouldn't be freezing right now." On a more serious note, he explained that he plans to return. "My attraction is the A.N.S., the staff, and the people of Nicaragua."

## Shear Madness commands center stage at Charles Playhouse 15 years and counting

by Kristi Widberg  
Strobe staff

Lime green vinyl seats command center stage on the black and white checkered floor. Red, orange, yellow and green flowered wallpaper lines the wall. Curlers, cotton balls, and combs overflow their respective bins and a working sink sprays water from a hand-held hose. A pair of six-inch hairdressing shears lie gleaming on a counter top under the bright stage lights.

This is the set of Boston's own award-winning play "Shear Madness."

"Shear Madness" is a "comedy whodunit" which employs audience participation in order to discover the murderer of the famous concert pianist Isabel Czemey.

"I thought she was dead," says Mrs. Shubert, a customer at the Shear Madness Unisex Hair Styling Salon.

Well, she was dead. But with every performance of the play, Isabel is revived and then murdered once again with a pair of scissors.

The actors and actresses set up and deliver the murder with an arsenal of jokes, witty improvisation, and a few somber touching moments that help to jog one's memory that a

murder has been committed. Then the audience is called in to solve the mystery. The audience is allowed to ask questions, present theories and help reconstruct the crime. In the final scene, the actors and actresses take over again to unmask the culprit.

"Shear Madness", created and produced by Bruce Jordan and Marilyn Abrams, was originally scheduled for only 31 performances at the Boston Charles Playhouse, Stage II, but its outstanding reception caused it to continue running. The play is recognized in the "Guinness Book of World Records" as holding a national theatre record for "the longest-running, non-musical play in American history".

"Shear Madness" is performed in cities throughout the United States as well as countries around the world. The play is currently playing in Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Austin, St. Paul, Kansas City, and Washington D.C. as well as Canada, Spain, Israel, Argentina, and Hungary.

Each theatre adapts to its surrounding characteristics and landmarks. Each version of "Shear Madness" incorporates local references as well as utilizes local actresses and actors. The Boston theatre includes jokes about Boston cops, the town of Medford, and the New Kids on the Block. The set of "Shear Madness" even includes a poster of Boston's basketball legend Larry Bird.

The play originated from the German script "Scherenschnitt", a serious murder mystery written by Swiss playwright, Paul Portner. Jordan and Abrams received permission to adapt the play and eventually obtained the world stage, film and television rights.

"Shear Madness" premiered at New York's Lake George Dinner Theatre in the summer of 1978 and through a series of performances evolved into the entertaining comedic murder mystery that the current play is famous for.



Shear Madness is a sure bet in the theater district.

# ACOA

## defined

by Maureen McNulty  
Contributing writer

ACOA. These letters seem to be popping up everywhere with increasing frequency. They have been spotted in the media, on school bulletin boards, around the FSC campus, in churches, and in counseling centers. Stop by the self-help section of any bookstore, the letters will jump from the bindings of a variety of books that promise to help those in need. What do the letters stand for? Do they affect you?

Before answering, consider the following questions. Have you ever wished one of your parents would stop drinking? Have you ever wished your home had been more like the home of one of your friends? Do you have trouble with relationships, anger, trust, perfectionism, control, self-esteem, sadness, or procrastina-

tion? If the answer to these questions is "yes", you may be an ACOA; an Adult Child Of an Alcoholic.

ACOA's are people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking problem. They come from all kinds of ethnic or economic backgrounds. They are more likely to become alcoholics themselves, get involved with alcoholic partners, and have emotional, psychological, or physical problems.

If you are saying to yourself, "Sure, my parent, grandparent, or significant other drank too much, but that was their problem. It didn't affect me!"—then you owe it to yourself to do some further research.

ACOA groups meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:00 in B26 and B27. For more information call 345-2151 extension 3152.

## FSC Police Blotter

February 21, 1993

- Request for Police at Russell Towers to pick up confiscated drug paraphernalia.
- Noise complaint at Town Houses.
- Dispersal of students sliding on the Aubuchon Hall Fire Lane due to the hazardous weather conditions.
- Fire alarm at Aubuchon Hall. Problem in the system.

February 22, 1993

- Car towed from Miller Lot for obstructing snow removal.
- Noise complaint - Miller Lot. Large group yelling.
- Dispersal - advised group of students to leave Miller Lot.
- Larceny of a gold chain reported to our station.
- Harassment by telephone of a student in Russell Towers.

February 23, 1993

- Assist Fitchburg Police with a motor vehicle accident at the corner of North and Ross Streets.
- Medical assist - student with head injury.
- Noise complaint - group sledding at the New Halls. Asked group to quiet down.

## THE BARKING DOG

BY DARRYL KLUSKOWSKI

### AEROSOL CHEEZ!!!

WHERE IT COMES FROM + HOW IT'S MADE...

QUITE NATURALLY, AEROSOL CHEEZ COMES FROM COWS...

AEROSOL COWS, THAT IS.

THE AEROSOL COWS ARE TAKEN TO THE AEROSOL CHEEZ FACTORY...

WHERE THEY ARE PLACED ON THE 'AEROSOL CHEEZ EXTRACT-O-MATIC'.

THE AEROSOL CHEEZ IS THEN CANNED FOR SALE...

AND IS BOUGHT BY YOU... THE ALL-KNOWING, EVER-CONSUMING PUBLIC!

WHO USE IT FOR...

CRACKERS! HOT DOGS! SPAM! JELL-O MOLDS!

HAROLD! I NEVER WOULD HAVE GUESSED LOVERS!!



## THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

Founded 1940

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## POINT

### Give Bill a chance

by Derek King  
Contributing writer

Okay. It has been a mere month since "Wild Bill" Clinton has taken office, and already our friends on the right are quick to criticize and bemoan the new administration.

Fair enough. That is how our system works. If the ultra-conservatives wish to condemn Zoe Baird for giving employment to a couple of hard working immigrants who escaped the wandering eye of the IRS, then so be it. If the religious right wants to label Clinton the Abortion President because he believes a woman's body is private property, then God bless it. And if our working class can't understand that fair taxation is the only way out of our fiscal crisis, then Glory, Glory, Hallelujah to them.

I believe that I am not alone when I express the sentiment that we Americans did not have much of a choice last November. However, that is the price we Americans pay for our complacency and ignorance.

It seemed to me last fall that Mr. Clinton was the lesser of three evils. We could have chosen a short, megalomaniacal Texan who reminded myself of a certain Austrian corporal (Adolf Hitler for those of you who don't know), a president who was much more concerned with starving Somalians than starving Americans, or a used car salesman from Arkansas. Personally, I picked the used car salesman.

And now I have to live with it, as do the rest of us who may or may not have even chosen the man. Believe me when I say that I am no fan of "slick Willie". However, is he really that bad? Now I understand that he cheated on his wife, not unlike John F. Kennedy or George Washington for that matter. And I understand that he smoked pot, but didn't inhale. Come on folks, he's a politician and it's his job to lie to us. After all, this is the land of Richard Nixon.

Ladies, he is keeping the law off of your bodies. Minorities, he is populating his cabinet and administration with people other than white males. And gentlemen, he is not as anxious as George Bush was to send you off to Iraq, Somalia, or Yugoslavia. He wants to rid us of a deficit that if unchecked will certainly impair the lives of our children, our grandchildren, and ourselves. He's under fifty and plays a saxophone. He's not afraid to talk to the American people and tell them what is wrong and what has to be done.

On the other hand, I think it is important for him to have his critics. He does occupy the most powerful position in the world and will have to be judged and watched accordingly. That's what the Republicans are for, and though I hate to admit it, they do have a certain value within our political system.

Let's just give the man a chance first. If he hangs himself, fine, but don't offer him the rope.

## COUNTERPOINT

### Plans for disaster

by Doug Ostlund  
Contributing writer

All this talk about sacrifice and patriotism has left me sick to my stomach.

Does President Clinton actually think that we're going to loosen our purse strings faster now that we're making "contributions" and answering a "call to arms" instead of paying taxes? Like Presidents Hoover and Carter, Clinton believes that higher taxes are a viable solution to our monstrous national debt. Unfortunately, it will fail.

In his Oval Office address, Clinton complained that middle class families are working harder for less and that growth now means "more jobless people than there were during the depths of this recession."

So why then would he want to raise taxes and make more people work harder for less? His recovery plan is naive and stubborn. It's naive for thinking that it is going to work when it already has a proven failure rate from past administrations. It's stubborn because of Clinton's team's refusal to admit that taxes are not for jump starting a lagging economy which threatens to vapor lock unless proper measures are taken.

Clinton's tax plan is inconsistent with his promise of more jobs and better pay. Taking money out of the economy via taxation is removing oxygen from the recovery. If tax hikes spurred growth then our history books would have chapters on the triumphant Hoover and Carter administrations. Stagnation was all that these endeavors resulted in.

Anyone who actually thinks that Clinton's plan will pull us back to prosperity must have been living in a cave in the Arctic Circle for the past 12 years. When will Democrats learn that tax increases are a recipe for disaster, not recovery?

Overspending is where the deficit came from, and spending less is the only way to make it go away. Cuts, spending, and then take a long look at the tax proposals, not the other way around. The trouble with Clinton's plan is that it is all tax hikes and too few spending cuts.

The shameful part of all of this is that the American people voted for spending cuts to reduce the deficit. Instead of taking up two hours out of his busy schedule to answer questions from children on Saturday mornings, Clinton and his cabinet should be busy burning the candle at both ends in order to slash the bloated fat off of the waist of the U.S. economy.

Don't just tell me for the hundredth time that "I feel your pain." I've heard enough of your empty rhetoric. Words are not there just to get you into office; they mean things.

## Get a Rush on politics

by Michael Gordon  
Contributing writer

Move over Arsenio and Letterman, because here comes Rush Limbaugh and he's angry.

Mr. Limbaugh's show is second to only the extremely popular "60 Minutes". His book, "The Way Things Ought to Be", has been number one on the New York Times best seller list for the past ten weeks. Limbaugh's position is that the American people made a grave mistake last November. The Democrats created a false sense of euphoria by using what Rush calls "symbolism over substance."

President Clinton and his aides have cleverly manipulated the public by abusing any culture's most potent ingredient: language. For example, taxes are referred to as "contributions." Now wouldn't it feel great if you could tell the IRS you don't want to contribute this year?

Rush Limbaugh exposes the absurdities of the new administration and how their plans for reform "just aren't going to work." Limbaugh has liberals on the run. He is strengthening the stand of Republicans while Democratic voters are already beginning to find doubt in their choice.

## A question of priorities

Tim Brooks  
Strobe staff

First of all, let me tell you, student involvement at this school makes me sick.

Not because of lack of involvement but because of where it is placed. I do sympathize with those people who do truly wish to attend events, but have time constraints or what not. Let me just tell you why I feel the way I do.

Since I've been here at FSC I've attended many event from fashion shows to rape awareness, from lip sync to lectures. They all have on thing in common. If there is a slight chance the students may learn something at an event, then participation plummets.

Example, this semester I attended a race relations program where the number of students in attendance was very poor and, just recently, I attended an HIV awareness discussion and the student involvement was nonexistent. It

First, on his bash list is co-President Hillary Rodham Clinton. America doesn't need two presidents. She's no Eleanor Roosevelt, but right now she's politically more powerful than her husband.

I personally find Limbaugh show terribly entertaining and informative. However, viewers must not become hypnotized solely by his attacks on liberalism.

The point is, both parties are guilty of lying to the public. The only difference is that Democrats don't have a representative with enough guts and intelligence to bash its opponents on national radio and television.

You must give Limbaugh some credit for what he's doing to represent his political party. Voltaire, the great Eighteenth century satirist, would tell Limbaugh he's only half way there. To him, and myself, all government is corrupt and must be criticized.

Republicans are just as guilty for a propagandist government as Democrats. It could be that the Republicans are just upset because they aren't running the show anymore. Whatever the reason is, it appears to be working. As the number of days "America is held hostage" increases, so do Limbaugh's ratings.

just made me wonder if FSC students felt that AIDS and racism are less important to them than watching someone upchuck a Rubik's Cube.

No offense to Steve Starr or anyone who attended, but do you realize that racism as well as AIDS is alive and doing well on this campus? It just strikes me as odd and disappointing that people can dedicate two hours of their week watching someone throw up but don't have any time to learn about and possibly help race relations and AIDS on this campus.

I believe that a college experience is a learning one, and by neglecting the important issues and striving for only the good times is somewhat ignoring the reasons we are all here.

Maybe I'm the weird one, and I know the majority of readers will disregard this article and go one just like always, but I don't understand why people seem to just not care.



## FSC: A silent campus

by Rob Haneisen  
Strobe staff

Warning. Warning. The Society for Thinking Persons has discovered a deadly disease running rampant on this campus. The symptoms include complacency, boredom, and conformity. Students observed with these symptoms should be watched for secondary signs of infection which may include a complete lack of expression and not giving a damn about anything in particular. This new epidemic is called student apathy.

This campus is stuck in a rut. You know what a rut is now, don't you? It is a groove in the middle of the road caused by the passing of a lot of traffic. It is a path that has been taken so many times that it begins to get worn out, causing the road to become inefficient. The campus, including the administration and student body, have been going down the middle of the road for so long that they have created a rut large enough to impede progress.

This creates a student body who considers themselves to be educated by wearing clothes from J.Crew or the Gap and going through the motions of being an individual, when all they really are is a clone of something they were told to be. Going through the motions creates an atmosphere of adequacy where the minimal effort to pass becomes the standard.

In plain English, it is simple laziness. The middle of the road politi-

cally correct attitude can find its root in laziness and fear. This path, in its quest to offend none, is the easy way out. Instead of students taking different sides of the road where they will have to cut their own path through a forest called life, they jump to the middle where the politically correct doctrine has already made their decisions for them. These students lose their identity as they join the majority.

It is a rare occasion that one can hear the student voice on this campus. Even then it resembles the quiet chirping of a baby bird who is alone and helpless without the protection of its mother in the nest. Last semester, students made a weak attempt to be heard when they disagreed with the policy of alcohol containers in residence halls. They were quickly silenced by a looming authority figure, namely the residence director.

Whatever happened to protests and rallies to gain student support? These things are visibly as well as audibly absent from this silent campus of students who don't care. Student groups, whom I will not name to save them the shame of my implication, seem satisfied to limit their voice to displaying posters on designated wall space. Oh, how demure!

I realized some things would be different when I transferred from a large campus to FSC's comparatively small student body, but I never expected the silence.



Compiled by Rob Haneisen  
Strobe staff

Eight people are in police custody in connection with the seizure of arms reportedly destined for Natal at the Golela border post last week. The African National Congress confirmed that five of the men are ANC members. While not condoning arms smuggling, the ANC will defend the men.

## This week in South Africa

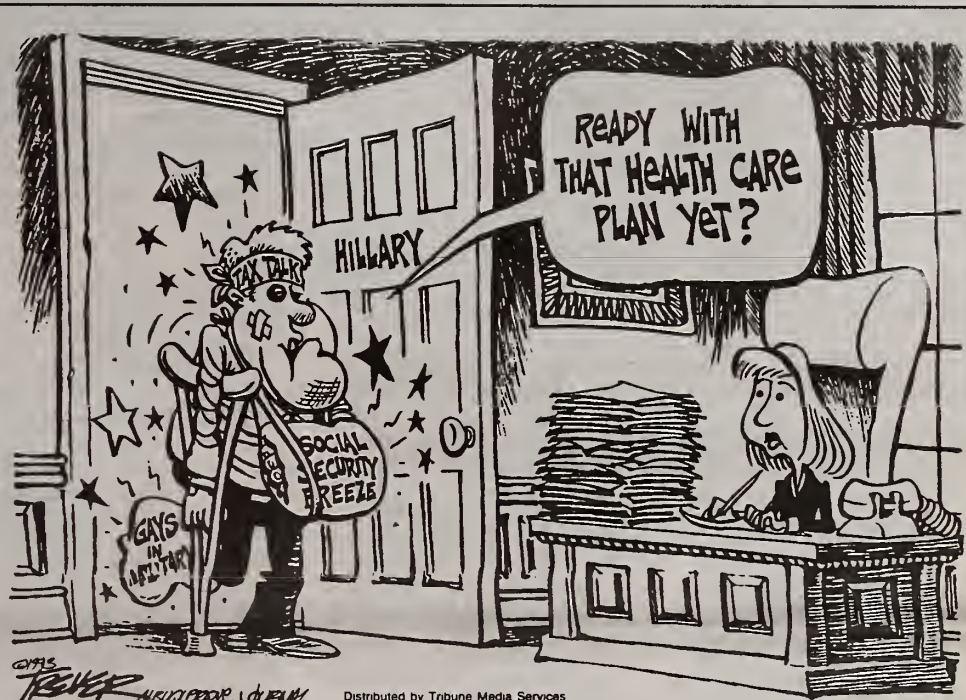
A radical ANC leader said that the ANC members were probably smuggling arms into the country to defend themselves in township warfare. The Inkatha Freedom Party has accused the ANC of stockpiling arms in preparation for waging war before and during elections. The ANC claims that the IFP is being armed by the government.

The recent revelations of arms smuggling and weapons stockpiling has made a solution to the war between ANC and IFP supporters even more necessary and urgent. Nelson Mandela and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi should meet by mid-March for bilateral talks aimed at ending political violence.

lence.

A group calling itself the South African Republican Army, which last year claimed responsibility for the assassination of an ANC deputy chairman, claimed responsibility for the slaying of six people in Daveyton last week. The SARA claimed to have carried out the attack early on Sunday morning killing six and wounding 11 people with AK-47 assault rifles. The SARA consists of returned exiles who are opposed to the ANC.

For good news this week, Sweden is one step away from dropping its sanctions against South Africa, while BMW may begin exporting Made-in-South Africa cars.



## Greeks: The solution, not the problem

by Mary Driscoll  
Contributing writer

It's really no one specific group's fault that FSC has problems with alcohol and relationships with its neighbors. Most people don't know how much Greeks are doing to alleviate these problems.

Did you know:

\* Greeks as a whole do more community service than any other group. They have cleaned up the Green Street Park, walked for Multiple Sclerosis (MS), done clothing drives for local children, blood drives, canned food drives for local homeless shelters, as well as many other projects.

\* Studies show that men's GPAs are higher at a school with a Greek system.

\* Most "open" parties, which lead to students disrupting FSC's neighbors, are not held by FSC Greeks.

\* The last organization accused of hazing wasn't Greek.

\* President Hammond was a member of an FSC Greek organization.

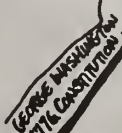
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Play College Sports.





Rich Gustus at the recent Comedy Night. It was a rib tickling good time.

## Comedy Night presents a hysterical alternative

by Tim Brooks  
Strobe Staff

On February 18th, FSC's Program's Committee ran their bi-weekly comedy night in the Union Stop Pub at the Campus Center.

Open to all students and guest 18 years of age and older, Comedy Night offers many good laughs as well as a safe alternative to off campus parties. The Pub does serve alcohol to those guests who have a valid driver's license.

The first of two comedians was Rich Gustus. Although he didn't have the crowd in hysterics, he did manage to keep a good stream of laughter throughout his act. Appearing in clubs and colleges all over the New England, FSC was just another night to Gustus.

Gustus prides himself in his power to find humor in observing social aspects of life. The crowd found Gustus humorous, but he not

a match for the star of the night.

Mike Bent, the self proclaimed "Boy Scientist", stole the show. Bent, having been one of Boston's top comedy acts for over six years, is no stranger to entertaining at colleges and universities.

Bent is no stranger to the big time either, having performed with Roseanne Barr, Steven Wright, and Bobcat Goldthwait to name a few. He has also dabbled in television, having entertained on the A&E Cable Network and Showtime Cable Network.

Bent comes to the shows with an array of wild, weird and funny inventions, magic, and body parts. He brings the audience back to when they were kids and makes them laugh through the entire journey.

Comedy Night is an enjoyable and especially relaxing experience that no FSC student should pass up.

## Harris braves storm, warms hearts

by Jason Koivu  
Contributing writer

On February 21, Marsia Shuron Harris arrived at Fitchburg State College to perform at The Program Committee's Coffeehouse for the courageous few who braved the icy New England weather.

On that cold and stormy night Harris provided warmth with her smooth guitar strumming and soothing vocals. Clear chord changes on a crisp sounding acoustic guitar were equally matched by her lulling lyrics. Her two sets consisting of eight songs each were a mix of originals with a light blanket of covers spread out over the show. The message from her own songs was of love, spirituality, and peace with the inspiration coming from her own experiences. The covers consisted of songs by Stevie Nicks, the Marshall Tucker Band, and Bob Marley among others.

Growing up on Led Zeppelin, the Allman Brothers, Marvin Gaye, and Aretha Franklin, as well as having come from the south, has put a rock and country twist into her music.

"My goal in life is to confuse people, because I hate stereotypes," said Harris, referring to her love of country rock in a semi-serious tone. Her taste in music has



Rain, snow, sleet and hail didn't keep Marcia Harris from putting on a great show at The Coffeehouse.

changed slightly over the years, but as she said in between songs, "I'm a songwriter. I write songs instead of listening to them."

Harris took up the guitar about 14 years ago and has been performing for the past three. She credits Neil Young and Joan Armatrading for having influenced her songwriting.

There is currently a live cassette available from Harris and in progress is a CD project with her band, Aye.

Harris, a Cambridge resident playing her first gig in the Fitchburg area, kept a less than full house intact and fairly receptive to her acoustic, soft rock style.

## 'Sommersby' lacks a good ending

by Shawn P. Sullivan  
Contributing writer

\*\*1/2 (out of four)

Some romances end in tragedy, and we weep. "Sommersby" ends in tragedy, and we wince.

For one hundred minutes this intriguing love story blossoms like a wild red rose, but the petals dry up and fall from their stem during the last few scenes. This post-Civil War valentine starring Richard Gere and Jodie Foster has the most disappointing ending in many a movie reel. It would be unfair for me to give away any details, so let me just say that any viewer expectations for a satisfying and crowd-pleasing wrap-up to this movie will definitely be left hanging.

That's a shame because "Sommersby" is a romantic historical narrative, filled with superb performances, heartfelt passion, and a mysterious storyline. Gere is completely convincing as Jack

Sommersby, a Civil War veteran who returns to his financially depressed Tennessee farm village after a six year absence. At one point, his identity is questioned by the law, and it is a tribute to Gere's mystique that he is able to keep us guessing his character's true name right up until the film's disastrous conclusion.

Jodie Foster is not just Gere's pretty woman; her portrayal of Laurel, Jack's wife, is yet another compelling entry into her powerful, Oscar winning portfolio. She glows with a rare beauty, one that has never been seen before in any of her films and is possessed by no other actress working in the movies. Bill Pullman, of Spaceballs fame, turns in an effectively antagonistic performance as Laurel's heart broken and vindictive ex-lover, Orin. In a special appearance, James Earl Jones is commanding as the town judge.

These actors, and others, inhabit the southern scenery of the post-Civil War era with the authority of a

Yankee general. To my speculation, the feel of the late 1860's is duplicated here in rich detail, from the costume design and political overtones to the vernacular of the people and the dilemmas they face. The story of Jack and Laurel's relationship is complex, filled with love, doubt, mystery, and tragically, justice.

So with all of this praise, why the mediocre rating of 2 1/2 stars? It's the unforgivably terrible ending. Let me put it this way. I saw this movie with my girlfriend on Valentines' Day. We started the night with a bland Chinese dinner, served by a waitress who continually snubbed us, and an obnoxious Karaoke concert carrying on in the background. The night ended with us seeing "Sommersby", a powerful love story that bails out with an ending that made us feel like a spittoon full of tobacco spit. But at least we had each other. If only the same could be said for Jack Sommersby, and his wife, Laurel.

Special thanks to Loew's Theater, Leominster



Illustration by Chuck Mullaney



# Da Paper Source

by Joey B.  
Contributing writer

Zup! It's me again, ready to give some rundowns on the week's hip-hop happenings and there was a lot of funky things going on.

First, one of my correspondents caught the show at UMass Amherst with Brand Nubian, Onyx, Double XX Posse and Positive K. Diamond was scheduled to perform, but was a no show. In all, it was a good show but surprisingly the group that got the most props was Onyx. These new kids on the block (no pun intended) seemed to really know how to get the place jumpin'. Then, when they performed "Throw Your Guns in the Air", the place blew up.

Brand Nubian was also live with some tracks off the new album and some off "All for One". However, Double XX posse and Positive K turned out to be the disappointments of the night.

I hit Boston again and checked out the Barnuda Triangle to see the group X-Caliber. This Chelmsford-based group has been wrecking shop all around Boston. They have been doing interviews on all the college stations in the city and even landed on Da Phunk Pit last semester. The crowd was jumpin', ready to peep what they've been hearing about.

X didn't come on till after 12 am but DJ Might Mi freaked the funk on the twelve hundreds and the group Urban Dwellers showed up to do a nice ad lib set. X-Caliber finally stepped on stage and shocked the crowd with the Dawn of the Drapes and the rhyme delivery was unlike anything they have seen in Boston before.

After the crowd got over the shock they grooved with X for the final song "Suburban Flavor", which was pumpin'. Look for X-Caliber as one of the many groups in the Boston area to break out and do some damage nationally. The Hicks from the sticks get much props from the B.

At Lauderdale's in Canton, my friends in funk Mixed Minds performed with nine other Boston groups and it was kinda fly. Mixed Minds did two jams that night. The one that rocked the crowd was a response to Mary J. Blige's "Real Love". Madd T of MM says that their music is a combination of Jodeci meets Grand Puba. Well, whatever it is, it's funky, so check 'em out when they hit a club near you.

On the local (Fitchburg) side, my good friend DJ A Juice of Power Source fame has been working REAL hard. Last week, he spun at the Metropolis in Boston with freestyle recording artist Cynthia. Juice's mixes were flawless and the crowd responded by packing the dance floor. Juice got his rewards when he got to meet Cynthia at the after party.

Well, check it, my stay has been too long, so now it's time to hook up with this week's top ten songs. PEACE.

## Top Ten List

1. Hip Hop Hooray (Naughty By Nature)
2. Nuthin' But A G Thing (Dr. Dre)
3. Sally's Got A One Track Mind (Diamond D)
4. Pass the Kat (Brand Nubian)
5. Throw Ya Gunz (ONYX)
6. Whole Kit and Kaboodle (MADKAP)
7. Jeep Ass Niggah (Masta Ace Inc.)
8. Check It Out (Grand Puba with Mary J. Blige)
9. Black Cop (BDP)
10. It Was a Good Day (Ice Cube)

## Extra Hit

The whole Naughty by Nature album!

Shout Outs Go To: The Wonder Twins, Slim, Karu, Fee, Michela Kareem, Lord, MADD Science, Boom Ski, Ace Luv, Sean Ski, Case, Manifest, MADD T, Seo, Jerry J, Hy and the rest of the SQUAD, Juice, Phi Beta Sigma, Russell Towers RA staff and Bo Bo.

Note: The Power Source has been changed. You now can catch DJ A Juice on Saturday nights from 10 to 2 with DJ Hyein Jo on The Saturday Night Jam on 91.3 WXPL.



Army of Darkness will not disappoint 'Evil Dead' fans.

## Bruce Campbell returns to kick Ash

by Chuck Mullaney  
Strobe staff

Ash is back with his chainsaw and shotgun to do battle with the dead in "Army of Darkness", the sequel to "Evil Dead II".

Ash, played by Bruce Campbell, is zapped to the medieval era of 1300 AD and enslaved by the ancient knights, but not for long. Once Ash regains his weapons, specifically the chainsaw that attaches to his arm where his hand once was and his sawed off shotgun, his powers are soon noticed.

In order to return to his own time, Ash must find the "Book of the Dead". The film's highlights

appear during this quest, such as when our hero gets his face stuck to a hot stove and drinks boiling water to kill something that didn't agree with him.

As expected, during his quest a mishap occurs and all hell breaks loose. Soon Ash is faced with an ancient army of skeletons, which come to life with the help of special effects.

Written and directed by Sam Raimi, the mastermind behind the first two "Evil Dead" films and the more popular "Darkman", "Army of Darkness" fills the screen with silly puns and slapstick. Some of these work and some don't. A particularly notable segment is the scene in which a character bends

down to see a "dead" witch and Ash calmly stops him and says, "It's a trick, get an axe."

If you're looking for the gallons of blood that splashed about during "Evil Dead II", this film may not be for you. For his own reason, or perhaps due to outside pressure, Raimi kept "Army of Darkness" on a more mainstream level. To capture a wider audience, the film is rated R, differing from "Evil Dead II", which is not rated.

"Army of Darkness" has its moments, but doesn't stand out like "Evil Dead II". I strongly recommend seeing this trilogy, and for more Bruce Campbell films check out the "Maniac Cop" series as well.

## Gospel group sends strong message

by Dave Duval  
Contributing writer

A crowd of approximately 70 people gathered in Kent Recital Hall at Fitchburg State College to here the gospel entertainment of "In Process". The event was sponsored by The Visiting Artists and Lecture Series.

The songs performed by the six women that composed "In Process" were songs of faith, love, hope, pain and struggle. Between each piece, vocalist Michelle gave a brief description of each song's history.

One example is "Freedom Song". It was a piece written about a bus trip to the south to help desegregate that particular area.

Another song, appropriately titled, "Thank You", had another interesting background. The song was about two very influential African Americans, Mary McCloud Stuartson and Ida Wells Barnett. Stuartson helped to educate blacks at a time when it was controversial, and Wells lobbied to stop the lynching of blacks.

"Mind Set on Freedom" was a song not only performed at FSC, but was also sung when the imprisoned civil rights leader Nelson Mandela was finally freed after twenty years.

AIDS also was a topic put to music by the gospel group. Michelle composed "Patchwork Quilt" after she witnessed the unveiling of the AIDS quilt in Washington D.C.

The song is a tribute to those friends who have passed on because of this tragic illness. At the end of the song, she urged members of the audience to say "I love you" to a friend who may be suffering from AIDS.

On a brighter side, there was an uplifting number, "You Light Up the Sky". This song was dedicated to that special someone in your life who has made you feel special, just like the colors of a rainbow.

The finale was "I'm Gonna Stand". This powerful piece sent a strong message urging everyone to stand up in the face of racism and injustice. The chorus provided a message of hope with the lyrics, "Love is all around us and we're gonna make it."



NOT THAT ONE, YOU FOOL! THAT'S LOVE  
POTION NUMBER 8!

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## Announcements

Open Mike Night for the Coffeehouse will be held March 7th from 8-10pm in the pub. Sign up your act at the Programs Committee office (by the craft center) after March 1st. All acts must sign up in advance.

FSC students working with Habitat for Humanity need your help! A trip has been scheduled to Pittsburgh so that they may build homes for the homeless, and they need donations. Anyone interested should make checks payable to Habitat for Humanity c/o Carol Hatch, 49 Atlantic Ave., Fitchburg, MA 01420. For more info call - 343-9458.

Anyone interested in joining an Overeaters Anonymous group should call 617-641-2303 for more info.

Exploring Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Identities will be meeting every Wednesday at 6:00pm. For more info about the group and its meeting location, please call during business hours x3428 ask for Jaime, or x3205, ask for Kelly.

Nominations for the annual Joel D. Miller Award should be forwarded to the Awards Committee c/o Alumni Association, FSC, Fitchburg, MA 01420-2697 by May 1st. The award is \$1000 and is presented each year to an alumnus in the teaching profession. For more info, call Michael Shanley, x3177.

If you have a personal concern or difficulty with which you would like some support or help, Counseling Services is for you. For more info, contact 345-2151 x3152

Anyone interested in attending the University of Nice, France over the summer for college credit should contact Catherine Canney at 345-2151 x3184

Anyone interested in forming a Native American Peoples Organization, a meeting will be held Thursday, March 4 in room 331-a at 1:30pm

If you are interested in taking part in a National College Student Sex Survey, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to National Student Survey, PO Box 13158, Des Moines, Iowa, 50310

Dr. Jefferson Breen will be hosting a workshop on Learning to Love Yourself, Nurturing Self-Esteem on Friday, April 9 from 8:30am to 4:00pm in CM 157

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top five poems in a national poetry contest. The deadline is March 31st. International Publications, PO Box 44044-L, Los Angeles, CA 90044

Professor Jim Andrews will be giving a lecture about his experiences working in the Russian state on Thursday, March 4 at 1:30 in the Kent Recital Hall (CM-150)

## Personals

To the Tokalon Pledges:

Good luck. We're all behind you.

Love, the Sisters of Alpha Phi Theta

"Hey Prez, Kiss my \*?!...!"

"I got problems? You got problems!"

Mark,

Happy belated personal.  
Love, Your Hot Chocolate Partner

BoBo-

Don't Forget FRC.  
Unknown

Dom, Andy & Tom,  
You didn't visit the show! Hey,  
Tom, I'm still your friend.  
God's Vengeance

Chad, Cheryl, & Julie,  
I certainly hope so!  
Jen

Chad,  
RELAX!  
Jen

Go mental Tues nights, 10-12 pm  
on WXPL with "CHUCK-AMUCK!"

Listen to the propane pigs every  
Wednesday night 10-12 pm

Pat,  
I knew you were the one.  
Eavesdrop

Hey, Julie,

It seems you left something in my room, namely the contents of your stomach. Please come and pick up your mess.  
Johnny

Beth,

Is this rash ever going to go away?  
Joe.

Steve and Dirty,  
Rudolph went into hibernation.  
It's about time.  
DV

Pammie,  
Cheer up! You'll be seeing your army man soon!  
K.

Nicole,  
Happy 21st! I know you're gonna have a good Thursday night.  
K.

Poobie-  
I love you so much!!!  
Lovve, your poopa

My secret admirer-  
Who the heck are you?  
MD

Andy,  
I want a rematch in air hockey.  
What shall we bet?  
Kristi

Dan from Sigma Pi,  
Laser storm. Two weeks from Feb. 25. Be there.  
Guess who?

Just wanted to say hi to  
Jaqueline and all her pathetic  
sorority friends

MD  
check your box today.  
-admire =)

Johanna-  
What happened to the dailly  
smiles? =)  
-Smilly

Hey Gropey Longarm-  
Want a Lic-o-Rice?  
-S.A.V.E.

Andrea-  
Don't forget about dinner to-  
night!

Attn. poster makers for Hbitat  
for Humanity-  
Your humor was in question-  
able taste.  
-G.V.

Hot \*&## car  
Hot %@## stereo  
Hot &\*%\$ chick  
Goin' down on me

Amnesty International meets  
every Tuesday night at 7:30 in  
Ellis White Lecture Hall. Write  
a letter, save a life!

Grandpa-  
I love you.  
-Annabelle

Kristi and Jen-  
Why don't you guys trust me?  
-E-i-C

## Hey, It's Party Time for FSC in Montreal, Canada

April 17-19 Patriots Day Weekend  
Sponsored by the Class of 1994

For only \$129.00 your weekend includes

- ◆ Round Trip transportation from FSC to Montreal
- ◆ 3 Days and 2 Nights Accomodations
- ◆ On location Tour Escort ◆ All tax and services

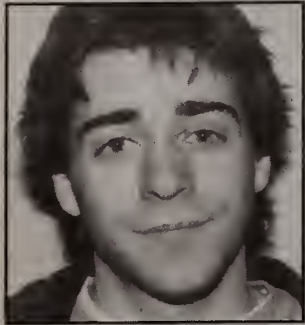
Bring your questions and deposit to the G-Lobby  
February 16, 17, 19, 23 or March 1, 2, 5 from  
9:30-3:30 p.m.

Only a \$20.00 deposit is required



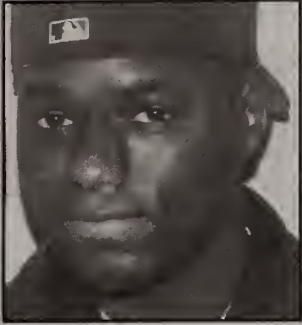
## Sports Question of the Week

Will we, as Red Sox fans, regret letting Wade Boggs go to the Yankees?



Steven Hagenbuch  
Class of 94

"My answer is schizophrenic. I care and I don't. I hope Wade Boggs haunts all of the idiot baseball fans. Do you believe me?"



Rapfeal Calderon  
Class of 96

"No, when he left, he found out the Red Sox were the best, the place to be."



Jen Guthrie  
Class of 95

"Definitely, he was the basis of the Red Sox, the center. Even though he had outside difficulties, he was on of the best players."

Photos by Tim Brooks

## Hockey team chalks up another loss

by Dave Querzoli  
Strobe staff

The FSC hockey team dropped their record to a mediocre 11-9-1, after folding to the Bisons of Nichols College, 5-2.

Falcon forward Scott Reilly netted an early goal via Steve Lowney and Bill Mastrerangelo only 1:31 into the contest. Not even the early FSC goal could hold back the Bisons for they

retaliated with three unanswered scores.

Dan Nigro blasted the opening goal of the Nichols College onslaught. Jamie Keefe followed Nigro's lead into the second period, chipping in the Bison's second goal. The Falcon defense could not hold back the offensive attack as Mike Currier slapped an unassisted goal past goaltender Ken Schwabe.

Freshman Brian Farnell added

FSC's second goal on an assist from Steve Baldersare in the opening minutes of the final period. However, Nichols would not let up. Mike Currier beat the FSC defense for his second goal on the night. Scott Fitzpatrick ended all scoring for the two teams, sending FSC home with another loss. Nichols goaltender, Scott Melahan saved an impressive 54 shots.

## Boggs' departure lifts Red Sox curse

by Dave Querzoli  
Strobe staff

Ignore that foot of snow outside your window. It is spring.

No more shovels, plows or icy sidewalks. Take off your thick Parker jacket, grandma's knitted mittens and that ignorant hat with the wool flaps. Pack away the skates, sticks and pucks. Close that medicine cabinet door—no more Rokitussin and Nyquil. Please no more flu.

Wake up, sport fans. It's spring. The baseball season is here and Rocket Roger is on time. Let's do it.

Now first things first. The only gloves I want to see are leather Rawlings snagging a base hit away from the new Red Sox Public Enemy Number One—Wade Boggs. What do you say we do a little Boggs' bashing? Shall we?

We, as citizens of the Commonwealth, have only three duties as Sox fans.

First, we must root, root, root for the home team. Second, we must complain, complain, complain about the home team (to the

point of almost starting a coup to overthrow management). And third and final, we must despise, curse and hate every New York Yankee team. Never will we don a Yankee cap, even if it is free. Nor will we declare I love New York, even for money, and never shall we adore a ball player wearing pin-stripes, even if his last name is Boggs.

He is one of them. No longer is he good to us. He went to that other eastern metropolis. He is making the big bucks now. Well, Wade, you can keep your batting titles. We've got something more than what that stinking New York money can buy. And that is pride.

Go ahead, Yankee fans. Give us that line about the silly curse. Yah, you pin-stripers have fooled us before. It is no secret that you got the better half of that deal. We understand, you got 715 home runs and we got over 70 years of a pain-staking, heart-wrenching, near-suicidal baseball.

BUT. Yes, but is the word. But, we just laid a dud in your power-packed arsenal. 1993

American League East Champions—MY BUTT. Yah, and Wade Boggs might bring you a pennant. Keep dreaming.

In the acquisition, you have got one prized, statistic hungry, mediocre fielding, aging ball player, whom scouts swear has home run power, but still hits only singles. And the number of hits are decreasing. Hey, New York, we rooked you. I love it (not New York!) Do you understand what this means?

The curse is lifted. The curse of the Great Bambino is now lifted from our tired, championshipless, Boston backs. C'mon sports fans, haven't you noticed? Since Boggs has departed for New York, look what has happened.

Things are looking up. We got the Hawk in right, good ole Dewey back as a minor league hitting coach, and a bulked up home run hitting, young third baseman. We even opened a new spring training facility and yes, Rocket Roger is on time.

THE CURSE HAS BEEN LIFTED. Lets do it.

## CRAFTY'S CORNER

### The First Annual Crafty Awards

by Stephen B. Crafts  
Staff writer

Hey, folks! Well, here we are with spring training officially underway. It has been one of the busiest winters in baseball history. With the expansion draft, a hundred-plus free agent market, and multiple trades, many faces have changed uniforms.

With that in mind, and coming off last weeks Emmy Nominations, I would like to present the 1st Annual Crafty Awards, presented to those players and/or clubs most deserved for their off-season performance.

The MOST IMPROVED TEAM award: This was a tough one. But, as far as addressing their needs and filling the, the Cincinnati Reds are the winner. This winter they've added Kevin "you haven't heard the last from me" Mitchell, Roberto Kelly, and John Smiley. 1-9, this could be the strongest club out there.

The LEAST IMPROVED TEAM award: ...and the winner is the Baltimore Orioles. Replace Billy Ripken at second base with Harold Reynolds and there you have it. Sure, Reynolds will give ya a little better glove, but is it going to put the birds any higher than their 1992 third place finish? I don't think so!

The IN YOUR FACE award: This award is presented to the New York Yankees. The Yanks laid out 25 million on Greg Maddux's table to which the star right hander aptly said, No thanks. Maddux then signed a considerably less 28 million dollar deal with the Braves. Gee, it's nice to know that money isn't everything!

The SURGERY, WHAT SURGERY? award: The Toronto Blue Jays! Accepting the award, as well he should, General Manager Pat Gillick. Gillick traded third baseman, Kelly Gruber, to the California Angels in return for Louis Sojo. Apparently, the Angels would like the done deal, un-done. Since a week before training started, it is learned that Gruber needs surgery on his shoulder due to an injury suffered in the World Series. Evidently, the Angels nor Gillick know of this. Sure, Pat, here's your award.

The IT'S A NICE PLACE TO VISIT BUT... award: Hands down, the Pittsburgh Pirates win this award. Once again, Manager, Jim Leyland must simply rely on what he's got opening day. However, I feel it just may catch up to Jim this year. But, he didn't lose that much this winter if you don't count a MVP (Bonds), a Cy-Young (Drabek), and a Gold Glove (Lind). Good luck Jim.

The INJURED... YOUR HIRED! award: Ladies and gentlemen, the winner is... Now, who'd ya think? I wouldn't have an award ceremony without including our own Boston Red Sox. Ivan Calderon played only 48 games last year due to injuries. Jeff Russell had off-season surgery. Dawson played a full season, but the Hawk's knees aren't what they used to be. Add this to Mike Greenwell (surgery last season), Carlos Quintanna (out all of last season), and Tim Lincecum (never ending aches and pains), and you have your reason for people's concern. Hey, I think the Sox can have a real good year, but the only way to do that is if these guys stay healthy.

Well, this concludes the 1st Annual Crafty Awards. I hope you enjoyed them as much as I enjoyed bringing them to you. What's that? Have a few nominations of your own? Drop me a line at the Strobe office. I'd love to hear them.

## WANTED

Entrepreneurial - Minded Student to be a partner in a business opening at colleges in the Northeast. Make money while gaining valuable business skills and having fun.

To set up an interview, call 1-800-673-5340.



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# She's at it again!

## — FSC Hoopster scores 1000th point —



FSC's Malane Perry just keeps going and going and going...

by Dave Querzoli  
Strobe staff

Add another milestone to her list; she's at it again.

Malane Perry, Fitchburg State College's answer to Larry Bird's farewell, netted her one-thousandth career point in a Falcon uniform. Malane has reached this goal before, two other times as a matter of fact. The power forward has provided a one-thousand point scoring punch for her high school Mahar Regional and while playing at Greenfield Community College.

Reaching the one-thousand point milestone is a career high for many, but to this three-time baby grand, it was nothing.

"I think scoring a thousand meant the most when I was in high school," admitted Perry.

Malane is the third woman to attain this scoring milestone at FSC, but is the first Falcon to gather one-thousand points in two years.

Yes, you read correctly, there is not a misprint. Perry reached this feat in just two seasons at Fitchburg State. It took Chris Page four years. Even Falcon Scoring Champ Lynn

Dorow used her entire four years to notch a grand in the record books.

Well then, how did she do this? Malane is focused. An ability that the great athletes have, but rarely do you find a player at this level who possesses this drive and concentration to excel. Malane knows what has to be done and goes for it.

"When I came here (to FSC)," said Malane, "I expected to contribute and as I began to play more, I knew records could be broken. Then I set goals."

Scoring is not everything this woman has in her vast arsenal. Perry has collected a number of records and honors also. During this season alone, the FSC hoops star has all ready been chosen as the Worcester Area Basketball Association's Guertin Trophy winner, an award given to the area's women basketball player of the year. Perry has also been named MASCAC player of the week twice and has been elected to the MASCAC honor roll four times. She has also gathered ECAC honors this season, being named ECAC player of the week and a two-time member of the ECAC honor roll.

Malane currently leads the MASCAC in points (390), rebounds (256) and free-throw percentage (0.815). Perry still has a number of FSC records insight, with just tournament play left in her final season. The FSC forward is chasing highest free-throw percent-

age in a season, rebounds per game (career) and needs just seven more rebounds to be second in the all-time FSC rebounding behind former Falcon Chris Page.

And there is more. I kid you not. In two years, Malane Perry has compiled numbers that would make Dustin Hoffman's character Raymond think twice. Just ask Fitchburg State Sports Information Director Dave Marsh. "You can get inundated by Malane's numbers," announced Marsh.

Just imagine the surprise Coach Steve Forte when he noticed his transfer diamond in the rough. "I knew she would be a nice addition, she is a great athlete," began Coach Forte. "She is surrounded by good talent, which I think drew her talents out in the open."

What next? Just what does this record setting hoopster have entailed for her Falcon fans?

"Now, I want a MASCAC championship," stated Perry. "I want a win over Salem State on Friday and then to beat Westfield on Saturday. If we play together, I know that we can beat them both."

During her two years stocked full of records and honors, Malane has sieged almost every possible achievement. Except, of course, the MASCAC championship. This weekend marks the end of a career of hard-work and determination and a conclusion to a quest for the ultimate milestone—a championship.

### 1992

- MASCAC player of the week 5 times
- ECAC player of the week 6 times
- MASCAC co-player of the year
- Second team ALL-ECAC
- Her 24.8 ppg ranked 6th in the nation
- Her 17.7 rebound per game led the nation
- Tied NCAA record for rebounds in a game with 35.
- Clinched New England record for Free throw attempts with 270.
- Clinched New England record for Free throws made with 207.

### FSC RECORDS

#### 1992

- Netted 17 Free throws vs. Anna Maria setting a Falcon record
- Gathered 443 rebounds in a season for school record

#### 1993

- Third player to reach her 1,000 point plateau in FSC women's basketball history
- Most points in one game with 27 points vs. Worcester State
- Shattered FSC points per game record with 21.5 ppg.
- Field goals made in a single game with 15 vs. Elms College
- FSC career rebound per game record holder with 14.9
- Needs just 7 rebounds to move into second place on FSC all-time list

## Lady Falcons focus on MASCAC title



The FSC Women's basketball team is focusing all their attention on capturing the MASCAC crown.

by Phil Daniele  
Staff writer

Senior co-captain Tina Sottile lead a balanced Falcon attack, scoring 18 points and grabbing seven rebounds as FSC rolled over North Adams State, 62-41, in the first round of the MASCAC tournament. Megan Stephens chipped in with 11 first half points as the Falcon condensed the opening half on a 10-2 run.

"We did what we had to do to win," said assistant coach Randy Bullock. "We were once again led by Tina 'machine gun' Sottile."

Surprisingly, all-American candidate Malane Perry mustered up 13 points for the game. Senior co-captain Jessica Jones picked up the scoring slack, pouring in 11 points. Sophomore Allyson McGinn

pounded the boards for an impressive 12 rebounds.

The Falcons set the tone for the game early on by applying full court pressure defense from the opening tip until the waning moments of the game. FSC's defensive intensity did not falter through out the game.

The stalwart defense helped to counterbalance a less than impeccable night of offense. "We were trying to get it all together as far as executing our plays, because it's tournament time and every one is going to have to step up and fill their roles, much like Megan Stephens did tonight," said Tina Sottile.

"We are all looking forward to traveling down to Buzzards Bay," said junior guard Net Bradley. "We plan on kicking some butt and take home the MASCAC title for everyone at FSC."

## Falcons' season brought to a merciful close



Mercy was bestowed on the men's basketball team when their season came to an end.

by Dave Querzoli  
Strobe staff

The FSC men's basketball team pulled off a 79-71 upset victory over the visiting Bridgewater State College Bears.

Captains Pat Williams and Mokie Harding led the Falcon's first half offensive strike, scoring eight points each. BSC's Scott Knief pulled his Bears within four

points, 41-37, after nailing seven-teen first half points.

The Falcons jelled in the second half and kept their lead when Williams pounded the boards for nine rebounds and seven more points. Harding also collected seven points as his Falcons held on for a victory. Joe Vanuni iced the Bears hopes hitting nine crucial shots from the charity stripe and sending BSC home with a loss.

A 96-56 loss. What could be said about this crushing loss. Ouch!

Williams provided the Falcons with what little offense they had by collecting 17 points and six rebounds, in yet another blow out to the Owls of Westfield State. David Brown led all Owl scorers with 18 points, putting the Falcon's season to a deserving rest. The Falcons break for the year with a painful 4-19 record.